SI. No.	States/U.Ts	Ear-marked	Setup
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
14.	Madhya Pradesh	85	85
15.	Maharashtra	187	93
16.	Manipur	3	—
17.	Meghalaya	3	3
18.	Mizoram	3	3
19.	Nagaland	3	3
20.	Orissa	72	12
21.	Punjab	29	—
22.	Rajasthan	83	40
23.	Sikkim	3	—
24.	Tamil Nadu	49	—
25.	Tripura	3	3
26.	Uttaranchal	45	45
27.	Uttar Pradesh	242	64
28.	West Bengal	152	13
	TOTAL:	1734	459

Amendment in Advocates Act

1614. SHRI K.M. SAIFULLAH: Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Bar Council of India has opposed any attempt by Government to amend the Advocates Act to permit foreign law firms and legal consultants to practise in India;

(b) whether the Law Commission had suggested for allowing entry of foreign law firms to practise in India; and

(c) Government's decision in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ARUN JATTLEY): (a) The Bar Council of India is opposed to permitting foreign law firms and legal consultants to practice in India. Presently, the Government is also not seized of any proposal to amend the Advocates Act, 1961, for the said purpose.

(b) The Law Commission of India circulated in November, 2000 a "Working Paper on Review of the Advocates Act, 1961". The Commission has discussed the issue of entry of foreign law consultants into India, in the light of the provisions of the GATS, in Chapter IV of the Working Paper. The Commission has received responses from various agencies and persons, but it had yet not forwarded any recommendation on the subject to the Government.

(c) Does not arise.

Time limit for clearance of arrears by Fast Track Courts

1615. SHRI K.M. SADFULLAH: Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Fast Track Courts set-up in the country upto 30th June, 2001;

(b) the number of cases transferred to these courts for quick disposal;

(c) whether any time frame has been fixed for clearing the arrears by these courts; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ARUN JATTLEY): (a) As per available information, 459 Fast Track Courts have been set-up in the country upto 30th June, 2001.

(b) These courts have started functioning recently. Hence, information regarding the number of cases transferred to these courts is not available.

(c) and (d) As per the recommendation of the Eleventh Finance Commission, each Fast Track Court is expected to dispose of 14 sessions cases or 20—25 other criminal/civil cases per month.

Law Colleges Affiliated to Bar Council of India

1616. SHRI RAMA MUNI REDDY SIRIGIREDDY: Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of law Colleges in the Country affiliated to the Bar Council of India;

(b) the number of Law Colleges in Andhra Pradesh affiliated to the BCI;

(c) whether it is a fact that recently BCI has withdrawn affiliation to some of the colleges in the country; and

(d) if so, the reasons thereof?